

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 COME-00 OPIC-12 AID-20 XMB-07 CIAE-00

INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DRC-01 /071 W

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R 231620Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0188

INFO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, OVIP, SL (S.A.J. PRATT & C.A. KAMAR-TAYLOR)

SUBJECT: SIERRA LEONE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

REF STATE 207423

1. SENIOR FINANCE MINISTRY OFFICIAL HAS INFORMALLY TOLD EMBASSY MINISTER OF FINANCE KAMAR-TAYLOR WILL TAKE PART WITH MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT IN APPOINTMENTS. ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL, PRATT AND KAMAR-TAYLOR WISH TO MAKE GENERAL PRESENTATION OF PLAN TO GENERATE INTEREST OF DONORS AND INVESTORS BUT WILL PROBABLY NOT MAKE SPECIFIC PITCHES FOR PARTICULAR PROJECTS. EMBASSY POUCHING ASSESSMENT OF PLAN SEPT 24 CLASSIFIED POUCH. PRECIS OF THIS ASSESSMENT FOLLOWS.

2. GREATLY INCREASED ATTENTION FOR AGRICULTURE IS MOST SIGNIFICANT DEPARTURE IN FY75-79 DEVELOPMENT PLAN. MUCH BIGGER FLOW OF PRIVATE AND PUBLIC EXTERNAL RESOURCES (AVERAGING LE 53 MILLION/YEAR) REQUIRED TO FINANCE INVESTMENTS TOTALLING LE 623 MILLION. PUBLIC FOREIGN ASSISTANCE NEEDS ESTIMATED AT LE 139 MILLION OVERALL OR 28 MILLION/YEAR, A SUBSTANTIAL JUMP OVER PRESENT LEVELS. IDA, WFP AND CHINESE (PRC) FINANCING PROVIDES BACKBONE OF AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENT

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PLANS EMPHASIZING INCREASED PRODUCTION OF RICE.

FINANCING FOR MUCH OF LE 36 MILLION PRIMARY AND SECONDARY ROAD PROGRAM YET TO BE LINED UP. GLAMOR PROJECT OF PLAN IS 46 MEGAWATT HYDRO-ELECTRIC PLANT FOR WHICH IBRD FINANCING IS BEING SOUGHT.

3. FOLLOWING PROJECTS LISTED IN PLAN OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO US:

A. FEEDER ROAD PROGRAM: CARE/GOSL PROJECT PROPOSAL TO EXPAND PROGRAM BEGUN TWO YEARS AGO WITH EMBASSY SELF-HELP FUNDS NOW BEING STRENGTHENED AND REWRITTEN AFTER BEING SUBMITTED TO USAID IN JUNE.

B. USAID HOUSING INVESTMENT GUARANTEE TO BE SOUGHT IN CONNECTION WITH LOW/MIDDLE INCOME HOUSING PROJECT IN FREETOWN.

C. GOSL DEVELOPING PROJECT PROPOSAL TO GET ASSISTANCE IN INSTITUTING LOCALLY DEVELOPED HIGH PROTEIN WEANING FOOD AS SUPPLEMENT TO PL-480 TITLE II COMMODITIES IN MCN CLINICS. USAID AT SOME POINT WILL BE APPROACHED FOR ASSISTANCE.

4. IMPLEMENTATION OF PLAN WILL TAX GOSL'S LAX FINANCIAL CONTROL MECHANISMS. MANY SEGMENTS OF PLAN WERE FORMULATED WITHOUT ADEQUATE LIAISON WITH GOSL MINISTRIES AND WITHOUT GRASS ROOTS PARTICIPATION IN PLANNING PROCESS. DISPROPORTIONATE EMPHASIS ON INVESTMENT IN NORTH AND WEST, FROM WHICH MOST APC MINISTERS HAIL, CONSTITUTE POSSIBLE OBSTACLE TO EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION.  
OLSON

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